

as 5. (amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the rotating means is effective to rotate the carrier so that a container is rotated between said first and second orientations.

6. (amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the translating means and rotating means are each reversible.

8. (amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carrier comprises a carriage slidable between said receiving and unloading positions and a rotatable carrier mounted on the carriage.

9. (amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the position at which the translating means locates the carrier at the unloading position is determined by reference to a dimension of the container or its contents.

10. (amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the translating means and rotating means are arranged such that initial movement of the container away from the receiving position includes both translational and rotational components.

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11. (amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the translating means and the rotating means includes means for moving the carrier to a preferred position following a stoppage.

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16. (amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 13 or claim 14, including means for controlling articles in the path such that articles already unloaded in the path may be maintained at a level which is substantially the same as that of the conveying means.

Mult. Dep
17. (amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 13 or claim 14, wherein the conveying means comprises endless band conveyor means.

Mult. Dep
23. (amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 19 or claim 20, wherein said first speed is variable and said second speed is fixed.

Mult. Dep
25. (amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 19 or claim 20, including further detector means for stopping the conveying means substantially when the contents of the container have been unloaded.

Mut. Dep.

27. (amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 19 or claim 20, including a variable capacity reservoir for receiving articles from the conveying means, including at least one sensor for detecting the relative capacity of the reservoir, and further including means for controlling the conveying means in accordance with signals derived from the sensor.

28. (amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the conveying means is driven at a first relatively high speed during a first phase during which a first, major part of the contents of the container is unloaded and at a second, lower speed during a second phase during which the remainder of the contents of the container is unloaded.

29. (amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the moving means includes means for delivering the container to the unloading position at which articles are unloaded through an open end of the container, and further comprising means for conveying unloaded articles away from the unloading position along a path, wherein the conveying means extends substantially across the open end of the container at the unloading position except at the path.

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